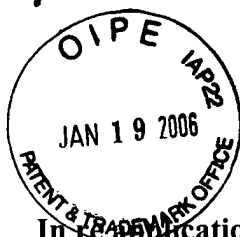


17w

File No: 6964CIP  
PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Frank A. Howell

Serial No.: 10/822,549

Group No: 3677

Filed: 04/12/2004

Examiner: Ruth C. Rodriguez

For: RAPID ATTACHMENT BUCKLE

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL

1. Transmitted herewith is an amendment for this application.

STATUS

2. Applicant is

- ☒ a small entity - verified statement:  
☐ attached.  
☒ already filed.  
☐ other than a small entity.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United State Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Emily C. Porell

Date:

Jan. 17, 2006

Emily C. Porell

Signature

## EXTENSION OF TERM

NOTE: "Extension of Time in Patent Cases (Supplement Amendments)--If a timely and complete response has been filed after a Non-Final Office Action, an extension of time is not required to permit filing and/or entry of an additional amendment after expiration of the shortened statutory period.

If a timely response has been filed after a Final Office Action, an extension of time is required to permit filing and/or entry of a Notice of Appeal or filing and/or entry of an additional amendment after expiration of the shortened statutory period unless the timely-filed response placed the application in condition for allowance. Of course, if a Notice of Appeal has been filed within the shortened statutory period, the period has ceased to run." Notice of December 10, 1985 (1061 O.G. 34-35).

NOTE: See 37 CFR 1.645 for extensions of time in interference proceedings and 37 CFR 1.550(c) for extensions of time in reexamination proceedings.

3. The proceedings herein are for a patent application and the provisions of 37 CFR §1.136 apply

(complete (a) or (b) as applicable)

- (a) ☐ Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136 (fees: 37 CFR 1.17(a)-(d) for the total number of months checked below:

Extension (months)	Fee for other than <u>small entity</u>	Fee for <u>small entity</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> one month	\$ 120.00	\$ 60.00
<input type="checkbox"/> two months	\$ 450.00	\$ 225.00
<input type="checkbox"/> three months	\$1,020.00	\$ 510.00
<input type="checkbox"/> four months	\$1,590.00	\$ 795.00
<input type="checkbox"/> fifth month	\$2,160.00	\$1,080.00

Fees: \$

If an additional extension of time is required please consider this a petition therefor.

(check and complete the next item, if applicable)

- ☐ An extension for \_\_\_\_\_ months has already been secured and the fee paid therefor of \$\_\_\_\_\_ is deducted from the total fee due for the total months of extension now requested.

Extension fee due with this request \$\_\_\_\_\_

OR

- (b) ☒ Applicant believes that no extension of term is required. However, this conditional petition is being made to provide for the possibility that applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition for extension of time.

## FEE FOR CLAIMS

4. The fee for claims (37 CFR 1.16(b)-(d)) has been calculated as shown below:

(Col. 1)	(Col. 2)	(Col. 3)	OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY	SMALL ENTITY
CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR		ADDITIONAL RATE	ADDITIONAL RATE
TOTAL	MINUS	=	x\$50.00=\$	x\$25.00=\$
INDEP.	MINUS	=	x\$200.00=\$	x\$100.00=\$
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEP. CLAIM			+\$360.00=\$	+\$180.00=\$
			TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE \$ _____	OR TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE \$ _____

If the entry in Col. 1 is less than entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3.  
 If the "Highest No. Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".  
 If the "Highest No. Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3".  
 The "Highest No. Previously Paid For" (Total or Indep.) is the highest number found in the appropriate box in Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

WARNING: "After final rejection or action (37 CFR 1.113) amendments may be made canceling claims or complying with any requirement of form which has been made." 37 CFR § 1.116(a) (emphasis added).

(complete (c) or (d) as applicable)

- (c) ☒ No additional fee for claims is required.

OR

- (d) ☐ Total additional fee for claims required \$\_\_\_\_\_.

## FEE PAYMENT

5. ☐ Attached is a check in the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Charge Account No. 19-0079 the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

A duplicate of this transmittal is attached.

### FEE DEFICIENCY

NOTE: If there is a fee deficiency and there is no authorization to charge an account, additional fees are necessary to cover the additional time consumed in making up the original deficiency. If the maximum, six-month period has expired before the deficiency is noted and corrected, the application is held abandoned. In those instances where authorization to charge is included, processing delays are encountered in returning the papers to the PTO Finance Branch in order to apply these charges prior to action on the cases. Authorization to charge the deposit account for any fee deficiency should be checked. See the Notice of April 7, 1986, (1065 O.G. 31-33).

6. ☒ If any additional extension and/or fee is required, charge Account No. 19-0079

### AND/OR

- ☒ If any additional fee for claims is required, charge Account No. 19-0079

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY

Reg. No.: 20,798

\_\_\_\_\_  
Maurice E. Gauthier

Tel. No.: (617) 426-9180  
Extension 113

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gauthier & Connors LLP

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Boston, Massachusetts 02110



File: 6964CIP

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**APPLICANT:** Frank A. Howell                      **GROUP:** 3677  
**SERIAL NO:** 10/822,549                      **EXAMINER:** Ruth C. Rodriguez  
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**Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
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Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450**

**Sir:**

**CORRECTED AMENDMENT**

In response to the office action mailed on November 2, 2005 and further in response to the office action mailed December 30, 2005, please amend the above-identified application as follows: